EGYPT

COUNTRY PROFILE

**IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21:
REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE SINCE THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, 1992**

**Information Provided by the Government of Egypt to the
United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
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United Nations Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development
Division for Sustainable Development
The Information contained in this Country Profile is also available on the World Wide Web, as follows:
http://www.un.org/dpcsd/earthsummit

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EGYPT

This country profile has been provided by:

Name of Ministry/Office: Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency

Date: 29 April 1997

Submitted by: Salah Hafez, Chief Executive Officer

Mailing address: 30 Misr Helwan El-Zyrae Rd. Maadi

Telephone: 3750874/ 3753441

Telefax: 3784285

E-mail: eeaa@idsc.gov.eg

Note from the Secretariat: *An effort has been made to present all country profiles within a common format, with an equal number of pages. However, where Governments have not provided information for the tables appended to Chapters 4 and 17, those tables have been omitted entirely in order to reduce the overall length of the profile and save paper. Consequently, there may be some minor inconsistencies among the formats of the different country profiles.*

All statistics are rendered as provided by the respective Governments.

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ACRONYMS

APELL	Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level
CFC	chlorofluorocarbon
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel
EEZ	exclusive economic zone
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ELCI	Environmental Liaison Centre International
EMINWA	environmentally sound management of inland water
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GAW	Global Atmosphere Watch (WMO)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEMS	Global Environmental Monitoring System (UNEP)
GEMS/WATER	Global Water Quality Monitoring Programme
GESAMP	Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution
GIPME	Global Investigation of Pollution in Marine Environment (UNESCO)
GIS	Geographical Information System
GLOBE	Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment
GOS	Global Observing System (WMO/WWW)
GRID	Global Resource Information Database
GSP	generalized system of preferences
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAP-WASAD	International Action Programme on Water and Sustainable Agricultural Development
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
IBSRAM	International Board of Soil Resources and Management
ICCA	International Council of Chemical Associations
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICPIC	International Cleaner Production Information Clearing House
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
IEEA	Integrated environmental and economic accounting
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (ICSU)
IGBP/START	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme/Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INFOTERRA	International Environment Information system (UNEP)
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IPM	integrated pest management
IRPTC	International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals
ITC	International Tin Council
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization

ACRONYMS (Cont'd)

IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PGRFA	plant genetic resources for agriculture
PIC	prior informed consent procedure
SADCC	South African Development Co-ordination Conference
SARD	sustainable agriculture and rural development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNU	United Nations University
WCP	World Climate Programme (WMO/UNEP/ICSU/UNESCO)
WFC	World Food Council
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (also called World Wildlife Fund)
WWW	World Weather Watch (WMO)

OVERVIEW

The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency has focused its efforts in order to serve the process of sustainable development and assist Egypt in recognizing and managing its resources during a phase of structural reform and economic adjustments.

The Agency has set up a committee for Sustainable Development which will direct its work towards networking with all the involved parties to knit a common strategy and base for the process of sustainable development. The committee will also be responsible for strengthening international and regional cooperation to promote ;sustainable development by creating a system of periodic reporting directed towards decision makers, and compiling databases about the involved parties.

The actions of EEAA fully complement the initiatives of the Egyptian Prime Minister, H.E. Dr. Kamal El Ganzoury, to prepare and implement a National Document for the 21st Century.

Dr. El Ganzoury presented this document to President Hosni Mubarak, in late March 1997.

Some important benchmarks:

- Preparation of the Egyptian Environmental Action Plan in 1992.

- Issuance of law 4/1994 on Environmental Protection and the approval of its executive regulations in February 1995.

- 1992: Beginning of the restructuring process of EEAA, and its organizational development to operationalize and implement law 4/1994.

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1. Key National Sustainable Development Coordination Mechanism(s)/Council(s).
Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency (EEAA)

Contact point (Name, Title, Office): Miss Somaya Saad, Director of Environment and Sustainable Development
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Telephone: (202) 574-7847 **Fax:** (202) 574-7839 **e-mail:**

Mailing address: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Maspiro
Cairo, Egypt

2. Membership/Composition/Chairperson

2a. List of ministries and agencies involved:
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Environmental Affairs
EEAA

2b. Names of para-statal bodies and institutions involved, as well as participation of academic and private sectors:
EEAA Board includes representatives of Public and Private Sectors as well as academic and scientific community and the environmental NGOs.

2c. Names of non-governmental organizations:
Involvement of more than fifty Egyptian NGOs in the field of environment is secured in EEAA activities.

3. Mandate role of above mechanism/council:

4. If available, attach a diagram (organization chart) showing national coordination structure and linkages between ministries:

Submitted by
(Name): Soliman Awaad **Signature:** Signed.

Title: Counsellor **Date:** 17 May 1994

Ministry/Office: Mission of Egypt to the United Nations

Telephone: (212) 789-6300 **Fax:** (212) 794-3874 **e-mail:**

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AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 2: **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES (with special emphasis on TRADE)**

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency (EEAA) has an active ongoing cooperation program with many donor agencies. Its general policy for international cooperation in the field of the environment centers around the following main issues:

- Direction of donors' assistance towards the Egyptian priority areas designated in the Environmental Action Plan of Egypt and the Egyptian National Environmental Strategies.
- Coordination between the different donor agencies in order to achieve the maximum benefit and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Ensuring the presence of the element of sustainability in all projects and programmes.
- Steering cooperation with developed nations to areas where they possess comparative advantages.
- Maximizing the utilization of indigenous capabilities especially in areas where there are abundant highly qualified national experts.
- Emphasizing the importance of experience and technology transfer particularly in areas where Egypt may still be considered a newcomer, such as Hazardous Waste Management and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
- Encouraging capacity building efforts as being an essential component in all cooperation programmes.
- Development of partnerships and new cooperation patterns that would benefit both parties, for example: the Gore-Mubarak Partnership between USAID and Egypt, and the Egypt Environmental Initiatives Fund established in cooperation with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) whereby new innovative participatory relations are established between NGOs and the private sector.
- Cooperation with other developing countries in order to benefit from shared experiences, including the initiation of experts exchange programmes and training courses in the different areas of specialization where the developing country may have a comparative advantage.

- <u>As regards Trade and Environment</u>:

- A permanent committee on trade and environment affiliated to the Ministry of Supply and Foreign Trade was established on 1/2/95 to enhance the relationship between trade and environment and to help make them mutually supportive. In 1996, the committee conducted a study on trade and environment in Egypt.

Cross-Sectora' Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency
   Ministry of Foreign Affairs
   Ministry of Finance
   Ministry of Trade & Supplies

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:**
   - The GOES is allocating 4,168,042,000 L.E. for environmental protection in the 5-year plan 1997-2002.
   - GOES is receiving external funding from different donors e.g. DONATEE, USAID. The total funding for ongoing supported donor project reached 902,153,727 L.E. in Dec. 1996.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS					

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

- Focus of national strategy

During the 1980s, the real GNP per capita annual growth rate was abou 2.5 per cent. At that time, Egypt enjoyed a remarkable stability in the distribution of income, with a high income quantile to a low-income quantile of 5.7. Nevertheless, almost one-third of the population--abou 19 million people--live below the poverty line.

- Highlight activities aimed at the poor and linkages to the environment

The Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency has been a partner in a numer of projects aimed at developing environmental cost efficient techniques to assist the community in impr ved resource management and utilization. The Agency also assists indigenous populations and victims of natural disasters.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:**
NB: Developed countries, where domestic poverty alleviation is not a major concern may wish to briefly describe their position regarding global poverty alleviation.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	1992	Latest 199_	
Unemployment (%)					
Population living in absolute poverty					
Public spending on social sector %					
Other data					

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

- **National policy objectives/focus**

One of the most important local issues that has been circulating around Egypt is the change from leaded to unleaded fuel and the use of CNG in cars. Although consumption habits need long periods of time to change, a gradual difference is realized among Egyptians every year.

- **National targets**

No information.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	1992	Latest 199_	
GDP per capita (current US$)	1,125	837	764		
Real GDP growth (%)	4.8	2.5	0.3		
Annual energy consumption per capita (Kg. of oil equivalent per capita)		488	493		
Motor vehicles in use per 1000 inhabitants	24.7	27.2	27.7		
Other data					

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Government policies affecting consumption and production.

1. Goals and Agents (Stakeholders)

Indicate with a (X) those agents which your Governments policies are meant most to influence.

Agents / Goals	Producers	Local authorities	Central Government	Households	Civil society
Material efficiency	X				
Energy efficiency:	X	X	X	X	X
Transport	X		X		X
Housing	X	X	X	X	X
Other					
Waste:					
Reduce	X	X	X	X	
Reuse	X				
Recycle					X

Comments:

2. Means & Measures and Agents (Stakeholders)

Indicate with an (R) those agents who assume primary responsibility for any of the policy measures indicated; indicate with an (I) the agents for which the impact is expected to be especially significant.

Means & Measures / Agents	Producers	Local authorities	Central Government	House-holds	Civil Society
Improving understanding and analysis	I	I	R	I	I
Information and education (e.g., radio/TV/press)	I	R	R	I	I
Research	R	R	R		
Evaluating environmental claims	I	R	R	I	R
Form partnerships	I	I	R	I	I
Applying tools for modifying behaviour	I	R	R	I	I
Community based strategies	I	R	I	I	I
Social incentives/disincentives (e.g., ecolabelling)	I	R	R	I	I
Regulatory instruments	I	I	R	I	I
Economic incentives/disincentives	I	R	R	I	I
Voluntary agreements of producer responsibility for aspects of product life cycle	R	R	R	I	I
Provision of enabling facilities and infrastructure (e.g., transportation alternatives, recycling)	I	I	R	I	I
Procurement policy	I	R	R	I	I
Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing performance	I	R	R	I	R
Action campaign	I	R	R	I	R
Other (specify)					

Comments:

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:	
STATUS REPORT: Total fertility rates dropped from 5.3 per woman in 1980 to 3.9 in 1992. The Government's view regarding population growth as well as fertility level was that both were too high; the Government has intervened to lower the rate.	

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Population Council.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** no information.

3. **Major Groups:** no information.

4. **Finance:** no information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** no information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1990	1993	Latest 199_	
Population (Thousands) mid-year estimates	52,691	56,489		
Annual rate of increase (1990-1993)		2.3		
Surface area (Km^2)		1,001,449		
Population density (people/Km^2)		56		
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT: Egypt has a relatively well-established network of health facilities in rural and urban areas. It was one of the first countries in the area to set up a comprehensive, nation-wide health system. However, despite some recent improvements in the incidence rates of some diseases and a high health-manpower/population ratio, most health indicators lag behind the standard prevailing in many developing countries. The major health problems in the country are mainly a function of poverty, an unsanitary environment, the inappropriate distribution of health resources among the various regions and socio-economic groups and limited financial resources.

The major health problems include endemic diseases such as gastro-intestinal diseases, diarrhoeal diseases, anemia, trachoma and chronic infections and parasitic diseases.

The health system is largely curative and physician-oriented despite the fact that the major health problems are endemic and amenable to preventive--rather than curative--action. Hospitals absorb almost two-thirds of the MOH current budget, while primary health care receives 25 per cent and preventive services absorb only 12 per cent of the budget. The financial distribution of this budget is also urban-oriented.

While potable water is available to almost all the urban population, unsanitary disposal of liquid and solid wastes and inadequate personal hygiene are still major sources for dissemination and prevalence of infectious diseases.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Ministry of Health, Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 1994	
Life expectancy at birth Male Female	 52.9 55.3	 57.9 60.3	63 (M+F)	
Infant mortality (per 1000 live births)	131	65	41	
Maternal mortality rate (per 100000 live births)	500[1]	270		
Access to safe drinking water (% of population)		89[2]		
Access to sanitation services (% of population)		67[2]		
Other data 1 = 1981 2 = 1988				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:	
STATUS REPORT: Water supply and sanitation are priority target areas for action, and strategies for potable water and municipal waste water are currently being developed, taking regional characteristics into consideration. Waste water treatment and reuse are being addressed through these strategies. Substantial efforts have been made to address pollution from domestic sewage. As such, fifty waste water treatment plants have been constructed throughout the country; another 50 are in various stages of completion. Solid waste management systems, addressing regions with different conditions, are being developed. The GOE is also taking serious action towards tackling the problem of random housing settlements.	

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Ministry of Housing and New Communities, Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency
   Ministry of Planning
   Ministry of Public Works

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1990	1995	
Urban population in % of total population	43.9	44.8	
Annual rate of growth of urban population (%)	2.5	2.6	
Largest city population (in % of total population)	15.3	15.3	
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING
(See pages vii and viii at the beginning of the profile)

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT: In January 1994, the new Environmental Protection Law was adopted by the People's Assembly. It complements previous environment related laws but covers areas which were not adequately addressed before, such as air and noise pollution abatement, protection of the marine and coastal environment and hazardous waste management.

The law provides for the use of environmental management mechanisms which include command and control measures such as the setting of appropriate standards, the application of the polluter pays principle (through the implementation of penalties and fines) and the use of environmental impact assessments (EIAs). The law also provides economic tools. For the first time in Egyptian law, there is a provision for economic incentives and tools, envisaged to create a framework conducive to the protection of the environment.

The law sets the tasks and responsibilities of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), providing it with the authority and leverage necessary to implement the law and its regulations. The EEAA has embarked on the ambitious task of implementing the National Environmental Action Plan, prepared in 1992 with assistance from the World Bank and the donor community.

A draft national Agenda 21 was prepared and defines the roles of the various government agencies within the framework of the Earth Summit with a view to avoiding overlap of responsibilities. Environmental units are established in sector ministries and at the local government level which coordinate with the national body, the EEAA. A number of pilot projects are already being implemented at the local level.

To further enhance the decentralization of environmental management, EEAA is currently in the process of establishing eight regional branch offices to cover the various Egyptian governorates. The branches are in different phases of completion. Currently in process as well is the Environmental Information and Monitoring Program (EIMP) and the Environmental Information System Project which will assist GOE decision-makers to formulate and implement timely and appropriate environmental policies, legislation and programs.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure (please also refer to the fact sheet):** Cabinet of Ministers

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** The law provides for the creation of an environmental protection and development fund to be managed by the EEAA. This fund's objectives are to support demonstration and pilot projects, address environmental disasters, assist environmental research and training, and support environmental promotion activities. It will be financed through state budget allocations, the tourism and environment fund, income from natural protectorates, penalties, fines and charges, as well as donors' contributions.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The Montreal Protocol and its Amendments - have been ratified.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was signed (1993) nd ratified (1994).
The latest report to the UNFCCC Secretariat was submitted in 1995.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

- Egypt has benefited considerably from the Multilateral Ozone Fund with effectiv help, particularly from UNIDO and UNDP. At present, the country is grappling with two issues:
  - Methyl Bromide
  - Recycling of ODS and disposal of discarded equipment.

- Egypt participated in the US country Studies Program in a two-phase programm on GHG inventory refinement and vulnerability and adaptation problems as well as a project funded within the same rogram on drafting a national climate change action plan.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:**
   - Participated in the first batch of US Country Studies Program.
   - Implementing UNDP/GEF capacity building project (climate change).
   - Promoting an Arab Ozone Network.
   - Will soon start with help from USAID, Cairo Air Improvement Programme.

STATISTICAL DATA/IND.CATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 199-	
CO_2 emissions (eq. million tons)			83	57
SO_x "				
N_2O (KT) "			42	63
CH_4 "			489	95
Consumption of ozone depleting substances (Tons)		2890		
Expenditure on air pollution abatement in US$ equivalents (million)				
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:	
STATUS REPORT: - Nursery Establishment. Afforestation of new roads and increasing trees in the already planted roads. Establishment of new gardens. Maintenance and development of gardens. Monitoring of soil contaminants. - Stabilization of sand dunes through tree planting. - Development of land use maps and plans to curb industrial and urban encroachment on arable land.	

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

Egypt has few or limited forest areas due to its North Africa arid, dry climate.

Eyypt's official position is in full confirmation with all initiatives to combat desertification and conservation of the existing forest resources of the world.

The **'El Kasr Project'** is a pilot project, implemented in a region near the City of Marsa Matrouh, which aims at desertification abatement and the sustainable development of the region through community participation with the residing bedouins.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Ministry of Agriculture

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	Latest 199-	
Forest Area (Km^2)	310	310		
Protected forest area	2.0	2.2		
Roundwood production (solid volume of roundwood without bark in mill m^3)				
Deforestation rate (Km^2/annum)	20			
Reforestation rate (Km^2/annum)				
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:
International Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification Particularly in Africa was signed; ratified on 7/7/95.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

Egypt is one of the main countries that have developed and implemented a strategy for combating desertification. Desertification is the biggest threat yet for Egypt's farmlands and flora.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS				
	1980	1990	Latest 199_	
Land affected by desertification (Km^2)				
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

With the restructuring of the Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency in 1992, the Nature Protection Department was formed to be responsible for nature conservation in Egypt. The department was entrusted with overseeing the implementation of law 102/1983 for the Natural Protectorates and managing the national network of Protected Areas. A total of 17 Protected Areas have been established in Egypt representing a wide range of critical ecosystems. Protected Areas have proven to date to be the most important management tool to protect the nation's biodiversity. As of 1995, approximately 7.5% of the country was protected under law 102/1983, and it is expected to expand coverage up to 15% by the year 2010. The European Community (EC) has been working closely with EEAA (Nature Protection Department) since 1988 in the field of national park management. Collaboration began with the project to develop the management and infrastructure of Bas Mohammed National Park.

The project was subsequently expanded to establish a protected area network in South Sinai with Napaq and Abu Gallum Protected Areas and Katherine protectorate.

It has been recognized that there is a need to enhance the management of other protected areas around the country and create new reserves in order to establish a viable and comprehensive national park system. As the first phase to develop the national park network, a country-wide assessment is taking place in 1997 to evaluate existing protected areas and identify new conservation areas to be declared.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:	
STATUS REPORT: Protecting and developing water resources by establishing tanks. Soil development and monitoring its contaminants. Using crop rotation. Better use of land and public awareness of sustainable development importance.	

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS			
	1985	**1990**	**Latest 199_**
Agricultural land (Km^2)	24,970	26,070	
Agricultural land as % of total land area	2.5	2.6	
Agricultural land per capita	516.4	494.7	
	1989/90	**1992/93**	**Latest 199_**
Consumption of fertilizers per Km^2 of agricultural land as of 1990	37,019	33,832	
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

Convention on Biological Diversity was signed in 1992; ratified in 1994.
The latest was report was submitted in 1997.
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ratified in 1978. The latest report was submitted in 1996.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

International Conventions

Egypt has signed more than eight international agreements having provisions for nature conservation. The Nature Protection Sector has been active in the conventions and following-up on convention compliance. The GOE has played a major role in the Biodiversity Convention) being one of the first countries to sign the agreement in 1992. During the past two years, steps have been taken to improve regulation of international trade in endangered wildlife as obligated under the CITES convention of 1979.
However, there needs to be greater compliance in Egypt of CITES and other international agreements stipulating the wise and sustainable use of natural habitats and wildlife.

National Biodiversity Unit (NBU)

To fulfil the country's obligations under the Biodiversity Convention, a National Biodiversity Unit (NBU) was established with support from UNEP at the Nature Protection Sector. A workshop on Egypt's biological diversity was held in November 1992, from which a National Biodiversity Action Plan was formulated. The NBU in cooperation with the scientific community has since produced a number of landmark studies of biodiversity, including the National Habitat Diversity Study in 1993 and the National Biodiversity Country Study in 1995. At present the NBU is establishing a National Biodiversity Data Bank to facilitate the monitoring and management of Egypt's biological resources.

In 1997 the NBU sponsored by UNEP will begin the production of a National Biodiversity Country Strategy. Upon completion of this study, it is expected to raise funds for Biodiversity projects in Egypt, such as those which have been identified by the National Biodiversity Action Plan, including Captive Breeding for endangered wildlife, a Gene Bank to preserve plant and animal genetic resources, and a Natural History Museum to promote Biodiversity research and education.

Hunting Management

Many different types of hunting are taking place in Egypt, which can be broadly classified as hunting for: sport, tourism, subsistence and commercial trade. There has tended to be excessive hunting in Egypt leading to the depletion of the nation's wildlife. Since 1992, Egypt has made significant improvements in hunting management with steps taken to organize sport hunting for gamebirds, in particular for tourism. To control illegal hunting, a system has been set up to monitor hunting in the desert and raids have been carried out on shops selling protected species of wildlife. In 1996 a study was conducted with support from DANIDA to explore ways to enhance the implementation of the provisions of Law 4/1994 pertaining to hunting. The study recommended that a hunting management system be devised in Egypt to manage hunting on a sustainable basis with a coordinating body established to oversee implementation of the system.

Wildlife and Habitat Resources

Due to its strategic geographic location at the juncture of three continents and habitat diversity, Egypt has rich plant and animal life. The National Biodiversity Country Study inventoried the plant and animal species in the country. (see table 1.3). However, much of the existing information is outdated and field studies are required to assess the current status of Egypt's biological resources.

While indications are that Egypt's biodiversity is being lost at an accelerated rate, habitat destruction, pollution and over exploitation are the main threats to the country's wildlife. For example, based on current trends, unless mitigation measures are taken, Egypt in the next ten to twenty years will stand to lose most of its large animal populations. More Protected Areas need to be established and management programmes developed to protect Egypt's endangered and vulnerable wildlife resources.

Habitat Diversity

Egypt has a wide range of habitat, each with its own unique fauna and flora. The National Habitat Diversity Study identified the main habitats occurring in the country (see Figure 1.1). These can be broadly characterized as desert, marine and coastal environs, inland wetlands, and the cultivated lands of the Nile Valley and Delta. The habitats with the greatest species richness and diversity are the wetlands, in particular the coral reefs on the Red Sea, and the Nile River and lakes. These are followed by the terrestrial habitats of: Gabel Elba, St. Katherine and the North Coast. Of these, all except for the inland wetlands and North Coast, are adequately regarded as Protected Areas. To further the development objectives of the nation, these and other representative habitats having cultural, scientific, education and economic value need to be protected under Law 102.

Value and Potential:

It is impossible to make a precise calculation of the value of Egypt's Biodiversity. Recent studies have indicated that Biodiversity is vital for the health, well-being and property of the nation. Some of the benefits derived from the requirement of biodiversity are as follows:

Table 1.1: Natural Protectorates Declared Under Law 102/1983.

DECREE NUMBER	PROTECTED AREA	GOVERNMENT
Decree 1068/1083	Ras Mohammed National Park	South Sinai
Decree 1429/1985	Zaranik Protected Area	North Sinai
Decree 671/1986	Omayed Biosphere Reserve	Matruh
Decree 928/1986	Saluga and Ghazal Islands Protected Area	Aswan
Decree 459/1988	Ashtoum El Gamil Protected Area	Port Said
Decree 613/1988	St. Katherine Ntional Park	South Sinai
Decree 942/1989	Wadi Assuity Protected Park	Assuit
Decree 943/1989	Lake Qarun and Wadi El Rayan Protected Area	El Fayoum
Decree 944/1989	Petrified Forest Protected Area	Cairo
Decree 945/1989	Wadi Alaqi Protected Area	Aswan
Decree 946/1989	Hassana Dome Protected Area	Giza
Decree 1204/1992	Wadi Sannor Cave Protected Area	Beni Suef
Decree 642/1995	Gabal Elba Protected Area	Red Sea
Decree 331/1996	Napaq and Abu Galum Protected Area	

Table 1.2: Main International Conventions Signed by Egypt for the Protection of Nature

CONVENTION (Place and Date Ratified)	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY IN EGYPT
African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Algiers, 1968)	
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar, 1971)	EEAA
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris, 1972)	Ministry of Education
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Washington, 1973)	EEAA
Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona, 1976)	EEAA
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animal (Bonn, 1979)	EEAA
Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (Geneva, 1982)	EEAA
Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea Gulf of Aden Environment (Jeddah, 1982)	EEAA
Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio, 1992)	EEAA

Table 1.3: Inventory of the plants and animals occurring in the country:

FLORA	no. of species	no. of endemic species	no. of extinct species	no. of endangered species
viruses	44	unknown	unknown	unknown
bacteria	238	unknown	26	unknown
fungi	1260	unknown	unknown	unknown
algae	1148		9	
non-flowering vascular plants flowering plants	369	none	unknown	32
fauna				
invertebrates	1422		unknown	202 rare species
insects	10,000			unknown
fishes	755		16	70 rare species
birds	450		unknown	16 globally threatened species
mammals	100		5	26 rare and 9 endangered species
reptiles	100		unknown	15 endangered species

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Education.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:
There are ongoing projects to build the Nature Protection Department's capacities. Training courses have been held covering different fields, wetlands management, public awareness programmes and hunting management. Conferences for the conservation of biodiversity are aimed to generate awareness of Egypt's global obligations and the benefits derived from biodiversity.

3. Major Groups:
Civil servants and many NGOs are involved in implementing or disseminating information related to the department action plan.

4. Finance:
The National Biodiversity Unit (NBU) gets funds from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); - the European Commission has been involved in nature conservation efforts in the Department; and the Ramsar Convention Fund supports a one year wetland Education Programme. In light of the successes in South Sinai, there has been increasing interest in Natural Protectortes. USAID and GEF are funding Protected Areas in the Red Sea and the Italian Government has initiated a project for the Wadi El Rayan Protected Area in El Fayoum. It is envisaged that there will be further projects once new conservation areas have been identified and priorities determined.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:
WWF - UNEP - EC - IWRB - Ramsar - Birdlife international.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1992	Latest 199_	
Protected area as % of total land area	0.8	7.5%	
	1990	**Latest 199_**	
Number of threatened species	118	see attached table	
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 16: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:	
STATUS REPORT: * Expand the technologies of biotechnology in afforestation and agriculture. * Eliminate overdependence on agrochemicals by developing the technologies and production of biological fertilizers. * Raising public awareness regarding the relative beneficial aspects and safe application of biotechnology to contribute to sustainable development. * Improve the technologies of biological treatment of water and wastewater. EEAA has initiated several activities and programs which cover the approach of environmental management of biotechnology in coordination with other line ministers. * EEAA launched the "First International Conference and Trade Fair on Environmental Management and Technologies", Environment '97 in Cairo from 16-18 February 1997. Up-to-date environmental management schemes and emerging technologies were presented covering various fields and potential for sustainable development. Biotechnology and its applications in afforestation, water and wastewater treatment and biofertilizers were covered in the event. * As part of EEAA environmental sector strategy for Egypt prepared by EEAA, the environmental management of biotechnology is covered by several programs concerning the utilization of biotechnology in afforestation, establishment of nurseries in all Governorates, tissue culture techniques and developing the biological treatment technologies in the field of water and wastewater treatment.	

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:
The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea was signed and ratified in 1982.

See also the attached tables on the next pages.

Egypt has signed all regional and international agreements regarding the protection of seas and coastal zones. A number of ongoing projects in the Red Sea and on the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea reflect the priority that this issue holds with decision-makers.

An Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy has been developed by the EEAA and is being prepared for distribution and implementation.

Currently, under the umbrella of the Gore-Mubarak initiative, the Environmental Sustainable Tourism Project aims at promoting the new concept of eco-tourism through implementation of various pilot activities in the Red Sea Region and the development of a National Environmental Sustainable Tourism Strategy.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Navy Border Patrol, EEAA

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 199-	
Catches of marine species (metric tons)				
Population in coastal areas				
Population served by waste water treatment (% of country's total population)	16%	20%	40%	
Discharges of oil into coastal waters (metric tons)				
Releases of phosphate into coastal waters (metric tons)				
Releases of nitrate into coastal waters (metric tons)				
Other data				

Chapter 17 (Oceans) Continued:

Check the boxes in the column below left:
For level of importance use:
*** = very important
** = important
* = not important
N = not relevant

Check the boxes in the column below right:
For level of implementation use:
*** = fully covered
** = well covered - gaps being addressed
* = poorly covered
O = not covered
N = not relevant

TABLE I. THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED BY THE APPROPRIATE COORDINATING MECHANISM FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COASTAL AND MARINE AREAS AND THEIR RESOURCES.

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
	a. Preparation and implementation of land and water use and siting policies.	
***	b. Implementation of integrated coastal and marine management and sustainable development plans and programmes at appropriate levels.	**
**	c. Preparation of coastal profiles identifying critical areas including eroded zones, physical processes, development patterns, user conflicts and specific priorities for management.	0
***	d. Prior environmental impact assessment, systematic observation and follow-up of major projects, including systematic incorporation of results in decision-making.	**
**	e. Contingency plans for human induced and natural disasters.	
	f. Improvement of coastal human settlements, especially in housing, drinking water and treatment and disposal of sewage, solid wastes and industrial effluents.	
**	g. Periodic assessment of the impacts of external factors and phenomena to ensure that the objectives of integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas and marine environment are met.	0
	h. Conservation and restoration of altered critical habitats.	
***	i. Integration of sectoral programmes on sustainable development for settlements, agriculture, tourism, fishing, ports and industries affecting the coastal areas.	0
	j. Infrastructure adaptation and alternative employment.	
**	k. Human resource development and training.	*
***	l. Public education, awareness and information programmes.	*
**	m. Promoting environmentally sound technology and sustainable practices.	0
	n. Development and simultaneous implementation of environmental quality criteria.	

TABLE II. TECHNOLOGY (MARINE ENVIRONMENT)

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
	A. Apply preventive, precautionary and anticipatory approaches so as to avoid degradation of the marine environment, as well as to reduce the risk of long-term or irreversible adverse effects upon it.	
***	B. Ensure prior assessment of activities that may have significant adverse impacts upon the marine environment.	**
***	C. Integrate protection of the marine environment into relevant general environmental, social and economic development policies.	N
	D. Develop economic incentives, where appropriate, to apply clean technologies and other means consistent with the internalization of environmental costs, such as the polluter pays principle, so as to avoid degradation of the marine environment.	
	E. Improve the living standards of coastal populations, particularly in developing countries, so as to contribute to reducing the degradation of the coastal and marine environment.	
	F. Effective monitoring and surveillance within the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of fish harvesting and transportation of toxic and other hazardous materials.	

TABLE III. SEWAGE RELATED ISSUES

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
	A. Sewage related problems are considered when formulating or reviewing coastal development plans, including human development plans.	
***	B. Sewage treatment facilities are built in accordance with national policies.	**
	C. Coastal outfalls are located so as to maintain acceptable level of environmental quality and to avoid exposing shell fisheries, water intakes and bathing areas to pathogens.	
***	D. The Government promotes primary treatment of municipal sewage discharged to rivers, estuaries and the sea, or other solutions appropriate to specific sites.	**
***	E. The Government supports the establishment and improvement of local, national, subregional and regional, as necessary, regulatory and monitoring programmes to control effluent discharge. Minimum sewage effluent guidelines and water quality criteria are in use.	**

TABLE IV. OTHER SOURCES OF MARINE POLLUTION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS:

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
***	A. Established or improved upon, as necessary, regulatory and monitoring programmes to control emissions, including recycling technologies.	**
***	B. Promoted risk and environmental impact assessments to help ensure an acceptable level of environmental quality.	**
	C. Promoted assessment and cooperation at the regional level, where appropriate, with respect to the input of point source pollutants from the marine environment.	
	D. Taken steps to eliminate emissions or discharges of organohalogen compounds from the marine environment.	
**	E. Taken steps to eliminate/reduce emissions or discharges or other synthetic organic compounds from the marine environment.	0
***	F. Promoted controls over anthropogenic inputs of nitrogen and phosphorous that enter coastal waters where such problems as eutrophication threaten the marine environment or its resources.	*
	G. Taken steps to develop and implement environmentally sound land-use techniques and practices to reduce run-off to water courses and estuaries which would cause pollution or degradation of the marine environment.	
***	H. Promoted the use of environmentally less harmful pesticides and fertilizers and alternative methods for pest control, and considered the prohibition of those found to be environmentally unsound.	*
**	I. Adopted new initiatives at national, subregional and regional levels for controlling the input of non-point source pollutants which require broad changes in sewage and waste management, agricultural practices, mining, construction and transportation.	*
***	J. Taken steps to control and prevent coastal erosion and siltation due to anthropogenic factors related to, inter alia, land-use and construction techniques and practices.	**

TABLE V. ADDRESSING CRITICAL UNCERTAINTIES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE. IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROGRAMME AREA THE GOVERNMENT IS CARRYING OUT THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
**	A. Coordinating national and regional observation programmes for coastal and near-shore phenomena related to climate change and for research parameters essential for marine and coastal management in all regions.	0
**	B. Providing improved forecasts of marine conditions for the safety of inhabitants of coastal areas and for the efficiency of marine operations.	*
**	C. Adopting special measures to cope with and adapt to potential climate change and sea-level rise.	0
***	D. Participating in coastal vulnerability assessment, modelling and response strategies particularly for priority areas, such as small islands and low-lying and critical coastal areas.	**
**	E. Identifying ongoing and planned programmes of systematic observation of the marine environment, with a view to integrating activities and establishing priorities to address critical uncertainties for oceans and all seas.	*
**	F. Research to determine the marine biological effects of increased levels of ultraviolet rays due to the depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer.	*
*	G. Carrying out analysis, assessments and systematic observation of the role of oceans as a carbon sink.	N

TABLE VI. RATING OF ACTIVITIES IN THE AIR AND MARITIME TRANSPORT SECTORS IN THE SMALL ISLANDS DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

AIR TRANSPORT	RATING	MARITIME TRANSPORT	RATING
1. Frequency (external flights)		1. Frequency (external shipping)	
2. Frequency (in-country flights)		2. Frequency (in-country shipping)	
3. Cooperation at regional level in air transport and civil aviation		3. Cooperation at regional level in shipping	
4. Cooperation at international level		4. Cooperation at international level	
5. Economic viability of national air line		5. Economic viability of national shipping line(s)	
6. Economic viability of regional air line		6. Economic viability of regional shipping line (s)	
7. national level training in skills for air transport sector		7. National level training in skills for maritime transport sector	
8. Access to training in skills for air transport sector within the region		8. Regional level training in skills for maritime transport sector	
9. Access to international training for air transport sector		9. Access to international training for maritime transport sector	
10. Supportive of ICAO			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT: The Ministry of Public Works and Water Resources has prepared a strategy for the management of water resources defining and addressing the needs of the various sectors.

The Nile is the major freshwater resource of Egypt. A national programme addressing pollution of the Nile from industrial, domestic and agricultural wastewater sources is being developed. This programme comprises low cost/no-cost and cleaner technology measures for industrial pollution prevention, industrial pollution abatement projects, low-cost wastewater treatment and reuse technologies, and more efficient utilization of agro-chemical fertilizers. An inventory of industrial pollution sources to the Nile has been prepared and prioritized, and provides the basis for implementation measures. The Government of Egypt has also increased fertilizer and pesticide prices to eliminate subsidies, leading to a more efficient use of the chemicals and thus reduced levels of pollution.

* Law No. 4 of 1994, has been issued to confirm all the requirements for the protection of the river Nile, including Law 48 of 1982.
* The municipalities are now sharing in freshwater management programmes.
* Planning for saving irrigation water to keep the aquatic balance is being undertaken.
* 6 stations have been constructed along the river Nile by EEAA to collect the wastes from tour ships and Nile boats; there are plans for the installation of new stations in other locations.
* Planning for waste water re-use on a large scale is underway.
* Industrial waste treatment plants should be available in all factories (especially facing the river Nile); that target could be obtained by reducing the customs duty on imported equipment, decreasing the taxes requested from the companies that follow environmental protection rules, and providing loans to them.
* Planning is underway now for construction of all new factories in desert areas, far away from the river Nile.
* It is preferable to assign separate courts for the environmental cases to guarantee quick action toward any environmental fine.
* The government has decided to increase the price of artificial fertilizers and pesticides to reduce the pollution resulting from agricultural drainage. The use of natural fertilizers should be encouraged.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** Cabinet of Ministers - Ministry of Public Works and Water Resources - EEAA - Ministry of Health.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** no information.

3. **Major Groups:**
   * NOPWASD (national organisation for potable water and sewage drainage.
   * Environmental monitoring center.
   * Water research center.
   Nile research center.

4. **Finance:**
   Cabinet of Ministers - Ministry of Finance - donors.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:**
   Regional: all the organizations related to freshwater.
   International: donors - research centers.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 199-	
Fresh water availability (total domestic/external in million m^3)				
Annual withdrawal of freshwater as % of available water	97			
Other data				

EGYPT

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN TOXIC AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

- Policy (law No.4/1994 and its executive regulations) has been established concerning the subject.
- Ongoing project for Establishment of Lists of Toxic Chemicals.
- Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with Ministry of Health controlling the importation of Agrochemicals.
- Ministry of Industry controlling industrial chemicals.
- Customs authority in cooperation with the above-mentioned ministries controlling the chemicals trade.
- Egypt in cooperation with UNITAR is currently in the initial stages of the PRTR programme development process during which the involvement of key stakeholder groups and interested parties is sought and initial programme objectives are identified. Special emphasis in Egypt is placed on linking the PRTR work to an ongoing effort to establish a national chemicals information system.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:**
   - 1 - Ministry of Industry
   - 2 - Ministry of Agriculture
   - 3 - Ministry of Health
   - 4 - Ministry of Petroleum
   - 5 - Ministry of Interior
   - 6 - Ministry of Electricity

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information.

3. **Major Groups:** No information.

4. **Finance:** No information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 20: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN HAZARDOUS WASTES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was ratified in 1993.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter: Egypt is taking measures to implement the Basel Convention. With the assistance of the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), an industrial hazardous waste management plan and implementation programme are being prepared. DANIDA will also assist Egypt in the implementation of pilot and demonstration projects for the treatment and safe disposal of hazardous wastes, as well as with a pilot project for hospital waste management in Cairo. Switzerland will support the development of a hazardous substance and material information and handling system.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** no information.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** no information.

3. **Major Groups:** no information.

4. **Finance:** no information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** no information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 199-	
Generation of hazardous waste (t)				
Import of hazardous wastes (t)				
Export of hazardous wastes (t)				
Area of land contaminated by hazardous waste (km^2)				
Expenditure on hazardous waste treatment (US$)				
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 21: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTES AND SEWAGE-RELATED ISSUES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

- The Government of Egypt is planning in the coming 5-year plan (1997-2012) to increase the current waste water networks and treatment capacity from 3.6 million m^3/day in order to raise the share of each citizen to reach 160 litre/day in Governorate Capitals, 130 litre/day in cities and to 70 litre/day in villages through the establishment of more than 100 new treatment plants and networks in all Governorates.
- Urban areas in Egypt account for 44% of the population where waste water coverage (networks and wastage water treatment plants) is about 40%.
- Rural areas account for 56% of the population where waste water coverage is only about 5%.
- New concepts are encouraged by the Government as private participation in BOT and BOOT.
- EEAA is preparing national programs on:
  - Management of waste water and sewage sludge marginal water.
  - Hygiene education.
  - Coverage of rural houses with healthy latrines and management of septic tanks.
  - Capacity building for operation and maintenance of existing and planned treatment plants.
- In Cairo only 6 large waste water treatment plants will be fully in service in two years. Among them is the Gabal Al-Asfar plant (one million m^3/day), the largest in the world.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:**
   Ministry of housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, Ministry of Local Administration and Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency.

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:**
   Capacity building in operation and maintenance of networks and treatment plants. Promotion and innovation of treatment technologies, including those for rural areas.

3. **Major Groups:**
   Governmental Bodies (Ministries and Governorates), Research Centers, NGOs, Universities.

4. **Finance:**
   Government budget, International donors.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** no information.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 199-	
Generation of industrial and municipal waste (t)				
Waste disposed(Kg/capita)				
Expenditure on waste collection and treatment (US$)				
Waste recycling rates (%)				
Municipal waste disposal (Kg/capita)				
Waste reduction rates per unit of GDP (t/year)				
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 22: SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The issue of hazardous waste in general is tackled through Law No. 4 for 1994, Chapter two, Articles 25 and 26.

"Handling of hazardous substances and waste shall be prohibited unless a permit has been issued by the competent body according to the type and use of hazardous substances and waste as follows"

"Hazardous substances and waste from which ionized radiation is emitted
Ministry of Electricity; Authority of Nuclear Energy".

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:**
   Ministry of Electricity; Authority of Nuclear Energy
   Ministry of Interior
   EEAA

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** no information.

3. **Major Groups:** no information.

4. **Finance:** no information.

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:**
   Information not available.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

EGYPT

AGENDA 21 CHAPTERS 23-32: MAJOR GROUPS

The role of major groups are also covered under the various chapters of Agenda 21. The following is a summary of main objectives outlined in Agenda 21. Please check the appropriate boxes and describe briefly any important steps or obstacles.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 24: GLOBAL ACTION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT.
The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was signed on 16 July 1980; ratified on 18 September 1984.

24.a Increasing the proportion of women decision makers.
Information not available.

24.b assessing, reviewing, revising and implementing curricula and other educational material with a view to promoting dissemination of gender-relevant knowledge.
Curricula and educational material already promote gender relevant knowledge.

24.c and 24.d formulating and implementing policies, guidelines, strategies and plans for achievement of equality in all aspects of society including issuing a strategy by year 2000 to eliminate obstacles to full participation of women in sustainable development. Policies and strategies have been drawn up.

24.e establishing mechanisms by 1995 to assess implementation and impact of development and environment policies and programmes on women. These mechanisms are in place.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):
Egypt is a leading country for empowering women and giving them an equal and parallel opportunity.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 25: CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

25.a establishing processes that promote dialogue between the youth and government at all levels and mechanisms that permit youth access to information and opportunity to present their views on implementing A21.

These processes are *ad hoc*.

25.b reducing youth unemployment
Information not available.

25.c ensuring that by year 2000 more than 50% of youth -- gender balanced -- have access to appropriate secondary education or vocational training.
- The goal set in Agenda 21 will be reached by year 2000.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 26: RECOGNIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THEIR COMMUNITIES.

26.a a process to empower indigenous people and their communities -- through policies and legal instruments is in place.

26.b strengthening arrangements for active participation in national policies
Indigenous people participate fully in appropriate national processes.

26.c involving indigenous people in resource management strategies and programmes at the national and local level.
Mechanisms for involvement are being discussed.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

Ch. 27: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: PARTNERS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

27.a developing mechanisms that allow NGOs to play their partnership role responsibly and effectively.
27.b reviewing formal procedures and mechanisms to involve NGOs in decision making and implementation.
27.c promoting and allowing NGOs to participate in the conception, establishment and evaluation of official mechanisms to review Agenda 21 implementation.
Mechanisms for NGO participation already exist.
The inputs of NGOs are important.

27.d establishing a mutually productive dialogue by 1995 at the national level between NGOs and governments.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 28: LOCAL AUTHORITIES' INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT OF AGENDA 21.

28.a encouraging local authorities to implement and monitor programmes that aim to ensure participation of women and youth in local decision making.
Government supports local agenda 21 initiatives.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

Ch. 29: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF WORKERS AND THEIR TRADE UNIONS.
29.a full participation of workers in implementation and evaluation of A21.
29.b (By year 2000, (a) promoting ratification of ILO conventions; (b) establishing bipartite and tripartite mechanism on safety, health and sustainable development; (c) increasing number of environmental collective agreements; (d) reducing occupational accidents and injuries; (e) increasing workers' education and training efforts.
ILO Conventions have been ratified.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

30: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY.
30.a increasing the efficiency of resource use, including reuse, recycling, and reduction of waste per unit of economic output.
There are governmental policies encouraging the above objective.

30.b encouraging the concept of stewardship in management and use of natural resources by entrepreneurs.

List any actions taken in this area:

30.c increasing number of enterprises that subscribe to and implement sustainable development policies.
Several big enterprises have adopted sustainable development policies, and several small- and medium-sized enterprises have adopted sustainable development policies.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS	
Ch. 31: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITY. **31.a** improving exchange of knowledge and concerns between s&t community and the general public. The scientific community has already established ways in which to address the general public and to deal with sustainable development. **31.b** developing, improving and promoting international acceptance of codes of practice and guidelines related to science and technology and its role in reconciling environment and development. **Brief comments on this chapter not already described in chapter 35 (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):**	
Ch. 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF FARMERS. **32.a** promoting and encouraging sustainable farming practices and technologies. A strategy is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. **32.b** developing a policy framework that provides incentives and motivation among farmers for sustainable and efficient farming practices. **32.c** enhancing participation of organizations of farmers in design and implementation of sustainable development policies. **Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):**	

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

Financial resources and mechanisms are also covered under each sectoral chapter of Agenda 21 where relevant. This summary highlights broader national financial policies, domestic and external (including ODA)

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Mobilization of both local and external resources to address environmental problems in Egypt.

STATUS REPORT:

The Government of Egypt is allocating local resources for environmental protection in the 5-year plan 1997-2002 with a total of 4,168,042,000 L.E. In addition to this, the Government is receiving support in the field of environment from donors, including, for example, USAID, DANIDA and JICA. The total funds for ongoing donor-supported projects reached 902,153,727 L.E. in December 1996.

CHANGES IN NATIONAL BUDGET TO ADDRESS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

No information.

NEW ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS:

TCOE/EEAA is currently working on a proposal for an Economic Incentives System in the field of environment, introducing mainly the use of soft loans, grants and reduction in customs duty as a means to support institutions undertaking environmental activities.

ELIMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY UNFRIENDLY SUBSIDIES:

No information.

ODA policy issues

- recipient country.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS						
	1992	**1993**	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**	
ODA funding provided or received (Total US$million)						
	Average for 92-93		**Average for 94-96**			
Net flow of external capital from all sources as % of GDP						
Other data						

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 34: TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

Transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building is also covered under each sectoral chapter of Agenda 21 where relevant. This summary highlights broader national policies and actions relating to chapter 34.

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT ON LINKS BETWEEN NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION NETWORKS/SYSTEMS:

1) Egyptian Environmental Information System (EEIS): The EEIS will be expected to produce timely and accurate environmental status reports which will be used to inform the Cabinet, others in Government and the public. The EEIS will also be used to assist in developing environmental projects and policy options, and in monitoring and enforcing compliance with environmental regulation.

2) Environmental information and monitoring programme:
An environmental programme consisting of five individual projects,
namely: institutional support, coastal water monitoring, air pollution monitoring,
database on pollution sources, and reference lab, for Q4.

3) Upgrading of the Environmental Documentation Center at EEAA is currently taking place. The aim is to create a national focal point for all environmental bibliographic information (published reports and grey literature). A link to the internet has already been established.

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION:

The three projects are being implemented by EEAA through the technical support from donor agencies.

• Describe any work being undertaken at the national or local level regarding efforts to promote clean production processes and/or the concepts of eco-efficiency. These processes may include training, preferential financial arrangements, information dissemination and changes in legal or regulatory frameworks.

- cleaner production programme to promote the cleaner production concept.
- EEAA will continue the administration of the National Industrial pollution prevention program (NIPPP). Its objective is the promotion of low cost pollution prevention measures and cleaner production technologies that will yield environmental and economic benefits for industry. Outputs include replicable demonstration projects in the various sectors.

• Provide information on the adoption of environmental management systems. National reaction to environmental management system standards such as the ISO 14000 Series and others. Please note efforts made at the national level to promote their adoption and the creation of certification infrastructure in order to facilitate access to these standards to local industry.

The national program for Environmental Management System (instituted to promote ISO 14000 certification); among that program's ongoing activities, EEAA shall develop, within one year, a workplan for assisting industries to formulate and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS).

• List and describe programs or work under way to facilitate the transfer of ESTs to small and medium sized enterprises. Please note efforts to facilitate access to financial resources and other transfer strategies.

- A program to Strengthen the Industrial Capability to Manage its Environmental Responsibilities.

A) Small quantity Generators (SQGs): EEAA will prepare mitigation plans for each category of the generators of small quantities of waste. The process will start by identifying these categories, which include photo-processing laboratories, dry-cleaning plants, gasoline stations, etc.

B) Medium quantity Generators (MQGs): EEAA will prepare action plans for each category of MQGs, identified as polluting industries. This will include metal founding, lead smelters, tanneries and the electroplating industry.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT ON NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH NEEDS AND PRIORITIES:

More accurate date could be provided by the National Research Center and the Academy of Scientific Research.

STEPS TAKEN TO ENHANCE SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING, IMPROVE LONG TERM SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT, BUILDING OF CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY:

- Awareness and preparedness for emergencies at the local level (APELL).
- Environmental Information and Monitoring Programme (EIMP).
- Institutional Support to the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, Environmental Information Center.
- Organizational Support Program (OSP) to EEAA.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS			
		Year	
Number of scientists, engineers and technicians engaged in research and experimental development	#46,022	1991	
Total expenditure for research and experimental development (US$eq.)	$	19--	
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The Egyptian Government has put its Educational and Awareness Strategy to complement and enforce all initiatives towards improving the environment.

a) Reorientation of education towards sustainable development

1. Reoriented the curricula towards environmental protection.
2. Implemented the Environment Education and Training Program.
3. Established a new program to improve school environment; this program is identified as School Environmental Auditing.

b) Increasing public awareness

1. Several Media Programs established during the past 5 years.
2. Developed an Environmental journal and Green Message for journalists.
3. Implemented an environmental awareness campaign to enforce Law No. 4 of 1994.

c) Promoting training

1. Developed more than 60 training programs for the line ministers.
2. Organized more than 120 workshops for several environmental bodies (decision-makers - local environmental bodies, etc.).

ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS:

1. Encourage NGOs.
2. Three NGO representatives included on the Board of EEAA.
3. Developed several training programs for NGOs.
4. Cooperate with NGOs in Government activities, and assist their activities.

FINANCING AND COST EVALUATION OF THE LABOUR ACTIVITIES:

Support is provided from several countries or international agencies, such as DANIDA, CIDA, ODA and USAID.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS				
	1986	1990	Latest 199-	
Adult literacy rate (%) Male	58.4	61		
Adult literacy rate (%) Female	32.8	34		
% of primary school children reaching grade 5 (1986-97)		98		
Mean number of years of schooling				
% of GNP spent on education	6.3[1]	3.8		
Females per 100 males in secondary school	66.7[1]	81.8		
Women per 100 men in the labour force				
Other data 1 = 1985				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

National capacity building is also covered under sectoral chapters.
Donors: You may wish to describe here how Agenda 21 has influenced your ODA policies in this area.
Developing countries: You may wish to describe any new national mechanisms for capacity building - and any changes in technical cooperation.

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT ON NATIONAL ENDOGENOUS CAPACITY BUILDING:

EEAA is supported by several donor cooperation projects (e.g. DANIDA Projects on organization support, environment education and training, environmental information and monitoring, ODA, USAID, etc.). It is also undertaking a national program for capacity building in the following areas:

- Environmental management (EIA, Monitoring Environmental Action Plans, market based instruments, Environmental auditing)
- Environmental awareness (decision-makers, NGOs, line monitoring, public).
- Enforcement and compliance.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Ch. 38: Brief summary of any particular UN System response affecting this country/state:

- no information.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS

Ch. 39: International Legal Instruments are covered under the relevant sectoral chapters. This is a listing of major agreements/conventions (not already covered) entered into and relevant to Agenda 21:

- no information.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING

This chapter is also covered under sectoral and other chapters of this profile. The matrix below gives an overview of how national authorities rate the available information for decision making.

Rating of available data and information suitable for decision-making

	Agenda 21 Chapters	Very good	Good	Some good data but many gaps	Poor	Remarks
2.	International cooperation and trade		x			
3.	Combating poverty		x			
4.	Changing consumption patterns			x		
5.	Demographic dynamics and sustainability	x				
6.	Human health		x			
7.	Human settlements		x			
8.	Integrating E & D in decision-making				x	
9.	Protection of the atmosphere				x	
10.	Integrated planning and management of land resources		x			
11.	Combating deforestation		x			
12.	Combating desertification and drought		x			
13.	Sustainable mountain development				x	
14.	Sustainable agriculture and rural development		x			
15.	Conservation of biological diversity		x			
16.	Biotechnology				x	
17.	Oceans, seas, coastal areas and their living resources			x		
18.	Freshwater resources		x			
19.	Toxic chemicals			x		
20.	Hazardous wastes				x	
21.	Solid wastes		x			
22.	Radioactive wastes			x		
24.	Women in sustainable development			x		
25.	Children and youth			x		
26.	Indigenous people			x		
27.	Non-governmental organizations		x			
28.	Local authorities		x			
29.	Workers and trade unions		x			
30.	Business and industry		x			
31.	Scientific and technological community		x			
32.	Farmers		x			
33.	Financial resources and mechanisms			x		
34.	Technology, cooperation and capacity-building			x		
35.	Science for sustainable development			x		
36.	Education, public awareness and training		x			
37.	International cooperation for capacity-building		x			
38.	International institutional arrangements			x		
39.	International legal instruments			x		
40.	Information for decision-making			x		

Additional Comments

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS				
	1989	1993	Latest 199-	
Number of telephones in use per 100 inhabitants	3.0	4.3		
Other data				